629. [*Transferred to 9th March, 1994*].

Consumer forums in the Country

630. SHRI S.S. SURJEWALA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scope and powers of the Consumer Fora are being enhanced in the country to make justice acceptable to the common man;

(b) whether Government propose to further extend and appoint Consumer Fora at the Sub-Division level in the country;

(c) by when Government propose to appoint full time Presiding Officers of the Consumer fora in the country;

(d) whether Government propose to provide Salary. T.A. and other perks to the Chairman and Members of these Fora; and

(e) if so the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Recently, the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 was amended to enhance the scope and the powers including monetary jurisdiction of the Consumer Fora established under the Consumer protection Act, 1986. Presently there is no proposal to further amend the Act.

(b) Consumer protection Act, 1986 provides for setting up of Consumer Fora at National state and District levels. There is no proposal to change the scheme of the Act in the matter.

(c) The appointment of full time Presidents of the State Commissions and District Fora is responsibility of the State Governments. Recently, the Supreme Court have issued directions to the State Governments to appoint full time District Fora Presidents. The Central Govt. have also directed the State Governments to comply with the directions of the Supreme Court.

(d) and (e) The Consumer protection Rules framed by the Central and State Governments under the Consumer protection Act, 1986 provide for terms and conditions of the presidents and Members of the fora which include payment of salary, honorarium, TA&DA on official tour etc

सुपर बाजार की शाखाओं में दवाइयों की कमी

631. **श्री अजीत जोगी:** क्या नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सफदरजंग अस्पताल और अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान स्थित सुपर बाजर की शाखाओं में दवाइयों को अत्यधिक कमी है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इस संबंध में कोई शिकायत प्राप्त हुई है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उस पर क्या कार्यवाही की गई है?

नागरिक पूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और वाणिज्यक मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कमालुद्दीन अहमद): (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) हालांकि, किसी भी समय कोई भारी कमी नहीं रही है, तथापि ऐसे मौके आए हैं, जब औषधियों की कोई विशेष श्रेणी खुदरा बिक्री केंद्रों में उपलब्ध न होने के कारण रोगियों से शिकायतें प्राप्त हुई हैं।

(ग) विशिष्ट रूप से सूचित की गई अनुपलभ्यता के बारे में तत्काल ध्यान दिया जाता है और यदि आवश्यक होता है तो तत्काल स्थानीय खरीदारी भी की जाती है। अन्यथा नियमित आपूर्ति के लिए उनकी अधिप्राप्ति उन्हें मंगाने तथा प्रेषण हेतु निर्धारित प्रक्रियाओं व प्रणालियों का पालन किया जा रहा है।

Exclusion of Government servants from P.D.S.

632. SHRI MENTAY PADMANAHAM: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken to exclude all Government servants from the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what are the reasons for removing middle-class people from the P.D.S.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c). The Advisory Council on Public Distribution System had set up a Committee of Ministers of Food and Civil Supplies from three State Governments for making recommendations regarding a National policy on PDS. The Committee had recommended in its report that in order to ensure larger and more meaningful quantities of foodgrains to the poor through the PDS it is imperative that the more affluent sections of society be excluded from the supply of subsidised foodgrains. The report of the Committee of Ministers was considered by the Advisory Council on PDS in its 16th meeting held in September, 1993. The Council recommended that the report be discussed further with the State Governments through the forum of the National Development Council. The Government has not taken any decision so far in the matter.

PDS in the backward blocks in Andhra Pradesh

633. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the Status of Government's policy to intensify and extend public distribution system in the most backward blocks;

(b) how many such blocks have been selected in Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the status of implementation of this policy in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMLUDDIN AHMED): (a) The Central Government, in consultation with the State Governments identified about 1752 blocks covered by various area specific programmes such as Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP), Desert Development Programme (DDP), Designated Hill Area (DHA) and Integrated Tribal Development projects (ITDP) for implementation of the Revamped Public Distribution System. The Scheme provides for reduction of Central Issue Prices (CIP) of foodgrains by Rs. 50 per quintal for such backward blocks.

State Governments/U.T. Administrations agreed to take action in regard to—

(i) opening of additional fair price shops;

(ii) issue of additional ration cards;

(iii) to develop infrastructure for creating or hiring storage capacity for stocking of foodgrains;

(iv) to make necessary arrangements for delivery of PDS items at the doorsteps of the fair price shops in the interior areas;

(v) distribute additional items of mass consumption such as pulses, tea, washing soaps, and iodised salt;

(vi) set up Vigilance Committees at FPS/Village level to monitor the supply and availability of items at the FPSs.

State Governments/UT Administrations have been implementing the action points mentioned above.

(b) Areas covered by Drought Prone Area programme (DPAP) and Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDP) in